

## THE ARMY TO BE INCREASED.

Washington dispatches of October 12, give the most important features of the report of the commanding general of the army to the secretary of war. The great burden of this effort, which the general designates "the last annual report which I expect to be called upon to write," is the necessity for the increase of the army. General Schofield expects soon to be placed upon the retired list to end his days in quiet repose and under the full pay allowed by our military laws to his rank; and in this, his last report, he finds the conviction of this great republic such that he deems a large increase of the army necessary, not to defend us from the invasion of foreign foes, but to keep our own people in subjection to the laws. The general says:

During a large part of the year, the army has been employed in the suppression of domestic violence, which took the form in many cases of forcible resistance to the execution of the laws of the United States, seizure or destruction of property under the care of the United States officers and open defiance of national authority.

It is not proposed here to enter into any discussion of the questions in controversy relative to the right or wrong of either side in the violent demonstrations to which the general refers further than to suggest that it is not consonant with reason or good sense to presume that any part of the American people would ever resort to violence without provocation; and it will be observed by all who read this report that the general makes no pretense of discussing the causes which led to the trouble; or of proposing any means of preventing the future recurrence of such violent outbreaks except by the establishment near the great railroad and commercial centers of a sufficient military force to terrorize workingmen into abject subjection to every indignity which their masters may determine to impose upon them. Of the police and the local militia he says:

It would seem unnecessary to point out the fact that any force like the militia of a state, or the police of a city, acting under another authority, though highly efficient in their appropriate service, cannot be made a reliable instrument for the prompt and effective execution of the laws of the United States. Manifestly every government should have an adequate force of its own for the execution of its own laws, no less than the judicial executive officers, necessary for the same purpose.

Have the masses of the American people become such outlaws that the police and the militia are inadequate to maintain the peace, and that it has become necessary to maintain a large standing United States army to hold them in subjection to the laws which, in theory at least, they have been instrumental in enacting for their own government? It would seem so if General Schofield is to be accepted as authority.

The country is now for the first time squarely confronted with the necessity of making adequate provision not only for defense against any possible foreign aggression, but also for defense against domestic violence in the form of forcible resistance to the laws of the United States. It is certainly manifest that the present condition of the country, with a population of nearly 70 million, under the danger of disorder

now known to exist, cannot be met by the same force that was deemed adequate twenty-five years ago, when the population of the country was less than half its present amount and domestic violence was not apprehended.

Ah, general, why was domestic violence "not apprehended" twenty-five years ago, and what causes have been instrumental in effecting this change in the disposition of the people? Have you made any effort to discover these causes? The American people are rapidly making the discovery if you have not, and in due time they will have something to say relative to this standing army which you propose.

Here is the general's estimate of the American people whom he proposes to hold in subjection to the laws by military force:

The army has been required recently to deal with an army far more numerous and dangerous to the country than any savage enemy which it has heretofore been called upon to meet.

How do the industrial forces of this country like this estimate of the general of the United States army?

The great object really aimed at in this report, and which is so far reaching in its consequences, if it should be fully gained in the few short months yet remaining of the absolute rule of our American plutocracy as to demand the most serious consideration of every thoughtful citizen, irrespective of party, is covered by a very brief paragraph. It is this:

Wise forethought in apparent anticipation of such conditions as those which have confronted the government during the last year, dictated several years ago, the establishment of, under authority of congress, of large military posts near the great business and railway centers of the country. Several of these large posts are now in condition to be occupied by troops, while others are in process of construction, and few others are still demanded, for which it is presumed congress will in due time make the necessary appropriations.

Now, reader, stop and think a little. What was the occasion of that "wise forethought" which led to the "anticipation of such conditions as those which have confronted the government during the last year, and dictated several years ago, the establishment, under authority of congress, of large military posts near the great business and railway centers," long before the conditions had arisen which necessitated them? Can you imagine? Is it not perfectly clear that congress foresaw the conditions to which its legislation was inevitably leading, and deliberately made this provision to meet the emergency when it should arise? As we have repeatedly shown, the legislation of the past thirty years has been dictated by a few pirates in whose hands congress has been as clay in the hands of the potter; and, while shaping the laws for the establishment of a more arrogant aristocracy in this country than ever before cursed the human race, provision for the subjection of the industrial forces to the inevitable conditions which must arise under such legislation, has not been neglected. These military posts in the vicinity of the "great business and railway centers" are designed to enforce subjection of the laboring

classes to whatever conditions the "captains of industry" may choose to establish; and now the commanding general of the army is recommending their increase, and an increase of the military force to occupy them in order to overawe the people. Think of it, ye sovereign voters of America; think of the conditions which you are asked to aid by your votes in establishing in this "land of the free," and at a time like the present.

The emperor of Germany is now engaged in the effort to secure a congress of the powers of the Old World to provide for a general disarmament of the nations, and his effort is receiving favorable consideration. While these old monarchies are thus considering plans for ushering in a higher civilization, this country is proposing to block the wheels of progress by a retrograde movement toward the ages when the nations were mere military despotisms. Are either the republican or the democratic parties opposed to this program of the general of the army? You, sovereign voters of the United States, are expected to approve this increase of the military forces, this establishment of a large standing army, and of military posts in the vicinity of the great business and railway centers. Do you approve of this program? If not, vote for the only party that is opposed to it.

## THE A. P. A. PATRIOTS.

In consequence of the withdrawal of R. E. Bruner from the American Protective association, facts are coming to light that reveal the true character of that institution. As has been suspected from the first, this organization of self-constituted American patriots turns out to be a mere republican machine, and the action of our Populist state convention in denouncing it was a very proper one.

There is another thought which suggests itself in view of the late revelations concerning the true character of the organization. Considering its avowed principles it is quite fitting that it should identify itself with the republican party. Its great fundamental doctrine seems to be simply opposition to Catholicism and to recognition of the common rights of Catholics to the privileges of American citizenship. It is an attempt at revival of the old days of proscription and of the regulation of religious faith and duty by the state, and is in direct antagonism to the principle of religious liberty guaranteed by the constitution of the United States. It is un-American, unpatriotic and unreasonable, and can never succeed in this country. The principle once recognized, and thereafter it would depend simply upon the power of numbers what religious sect should control the affairs of the country. It would open the door to defeat the very purpose avowed by the organization. All that the Catholic world would have to do would be to populate the country with Catholic subjects, and that church would come into absolute control of public affairs by virtue of

the very methods now designed to deprive its members of the ordinary rights of citizenship.

We have faith in the power of truth, and have no fear that in a fair field and with fair and equal opportunities error will come uppermost. Every attempt to acquire an advantage of one form of religion over another by other means than reason is a confession of weakness on the part of those who seek such advantage; and every attempt to discriminate against any class of American citizens because of their religion is an indication of danger to the liberty of all. Freedom of speech and of the press is the great safeguard of all human liberty. That lost, and all is lost; and this perfect freedom implies equal rights in the exercise thereof. The eternal separation of church and state must be maintained, and everything that tends to their union must be opposed by every good citizen of every sect.

In view of the avowed purpose of the American Protective association, to deprive one class of American citizens of equal rights of citizenship with every other class, it is both natural and fitting that the organization should identify itself with a party whose ultimate purpose is to concentrate all power in the hands of a favored few and subject the many to a condition of absolute vassalage. Such a party can never achieve lasting success in this country.

## THE GEORGIA ELECTION.

The Georgia election is the chief topic among democrats. Although the result is not fully determined by official count, each day brings news of Populist gains, and it is now plain that were it not for the fraudulent counting in a few counties where democrats are in full charge, the final count would show that the Populists had carried the state. As it is, the majority is cut down to 10,000; the Populists have elected ninety members of the legislature and have carried forty out of the eighty-five counties in which the official count is made.

If it is true as the Rev. J. H. Dougherty says it is, that the laws of the state are not enforced in Kansas City, and if he is cognizant, as he says he is, of places where business of an illegal character is conducted, why does he not make complaint against the law-breakers before the republican county attorney of Wyandotte county and have the offenders prosecuted instead of traveling about over the state and advertising the depravity of the city in which he lives? Such political bigots as Dr. Dougherty and Dr. Embree of this city are a disgrace to their profession, and a reproach to religion.

Let no Populist be discouraged by the glaring statements of the daily press that the fight in Kansas lies between the democrats and republicans. There is no fight whatever between them, and we know from Mr. Overmyer's own statements that he does not expect to get 10,000 out of the 300,000 votes.